IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE EASTERN DIVISION

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RBP, L.L.C.,)
Plaintiff,))
VS.) No. 1:04-1154-T/An
GENUINE PARTS COMPANY and INDIANA INSURANCE COMPANY,)))
Defendants,)
AND))
GENUINE PARTS COMPANY,)
Third-Party Plaintiff,)
VS.)
ALLIANZ GLOBAL RISKS U.S.)
INSURANCE COMPANY and LEXINGTON INSURANCE COMANY,))
Third-Party Defendants.)

ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFF RBP, L.L.C.'S MOTION FOR AN ORDER REQUIRING ALL PARTIES TO PARTICIPATE IN NON-BINDING MEDIATION

RBP, L.L.C. ("Plaintiff") moves for an order forcing all parties to this insurance coverage dispute to submit to a mandatory, but "non-binding," mediation conference. (Dkt. # 139). All of the parties, except Third-Party Defendant Allianz Global Risks U.S.

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Insurance Company ("Allianz"), consent to participate in mediation. Allianz does not consent to participate in mediation.

The parties are certainly at liberty to, and are encouraged to, seek a voluntary resolution of this controversy. To that end, the parties do not need the court's approval or order. However, it appears that forcing an unwilling party to participate in a "non-binding" settlement conference would be a futile endeavor, even assuming that the court's equitable powers would generally support such an order. Consequently, Plaintiff's Motion to Require All Parties to Participate in Non-Binding Mediation (Dkt. # 139) is DENIED. IT IS SO ORDERED.

O November 2005



Notice of Distribution

This notice confirms a copy of the document docketed as number 154 in case 1:04-CV-01154 was distributed by fax, mail, or direct printing on November 16, 2005 to the parties listed.

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Honorable James Todd US DISTRICT COURT